

1. (20 POINTS) We will call a sequence b_1, \dots, b_m **barely changing** if neighboring numbers differ by at most 73 (that is, $(\forall i \in \{1, \dots, m-1\}) |b_i - b_{i+1}| \leq 73$).

Consider the following problem:

INPUT: A sequence a_1, \dots, a_n .

OUTPUT: The length of the longest barely changing subsequence of a_1, \dots, a_n .

We would like to solve the problem using dynamic programming. Let

$P[i]$ = the length of the longest barely changing subsequence of a_1, \dots, a_i that ends with a_i .

Give an expression (or a piece of code) that gives an efficient way of computing $P[i]$ (assume $i \geq 2$).

2. (20 POINTS) We are given an $m \times n$ matrix A filled with numbers. A **monotone path** starts at the top-left square and in each step moves either down or right. (For example if $m = 2$ and $n = 3$ then there are 3 monotone paths that end at the bottom-right square: right-right-down (visiting squares $(1, 1), (1, 2), (1, 3), (2, 3)$), right-down-right (visiting squares $(1, 1), (1, 2), (2, 2), (2, 3)$), and down-right-right (visiting squares $(1, 1), (2, 1), (2, 2), (2, 3)$)). The **value** of a monotone path P is the sum of the entries of A in the squares visited by P .

We want to find the largest value of a monotone path that ends at the bottom-right square. We are going to solve the problem using dynamic programming. Let

$T[i, j]$ = the largest value of a monotone path that ends at square (i, j)

Give an expression (or a piece of code) that gives an efficient way of computing $T[i, j]$ (assume $i \geq 2$ and $j \geq 2$):

3. (20 POINTS) A **shuffle** of two strings A, B is formed by interspersing the characters into a new string, keeping the characters of A and B in the same order (for example, ‘**several**’ is a shuffle of ‘seal’ and ‘evr’). Given three strings $A = a_1 \dots a_n$, $B = b_1 \dots b_m$, and $C = c_1 \dots c_{m+n}$, we would like to check whether C is a shuffle of A and B .

Consider the following proposed algorithm for to the problem. We compute a table $T[0..n, 0..m]$ using the following rules

- (for all $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$) $T[i, 0]$ is true if and only if $a_1 \dots a_i = c_1 \dots c_i$,
- (for all $j \in \{0, \dots, m\}$) $T[0, j]$ is true if and only if $b_1 \dots b_j = c_1 \dots c_j$, and
- for other i, j the entry $T[i, j]$ is computed using the following update

$$T[i, j] = (c_{i+j} = a_i \text{ or } c_{i+j} = b_j) \text{ and } (T[i-1, j] \text{ or } T[i, j-1]).$$

Give an example of two strings A, B for which the algorithm produces wrong answer. Compute all the entries in the table T for your example (suggestion: keep your example small—that will save you work filling the table T).

4. (20 POINTS) Let a_1, \dots, a_n be a sequence of integers. We would like to split the sequence into segments such that for each segment the first and the last number are the same. For example, sequence 1, 3, 2, 1, 4, 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 4, 8, 9 can be split into 4 segments: 1, 3, 2, 1 and 4, 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 4 and 8 and 9; or into 6 segments 1, 3, 2, 1, 4, 1 and 5 and 6 and 7 and 8, 4, 8 and 9 (there are other ways of splitting).

We want to find the splitting that has the minimum number of segments (thus for the example above the first splitting into 4 segments is preferred). We are going to solve the problem using dynamic programming. We will compute a table $T[0\dots n]$ where $T[i]$ is the minimum number of segments to split a_1, \dots, a_i . Give an expression (or a piece of code) for $T[i]$ in terms of a_1, \dots, a_i and $T[0], T[1], \dots, T[i-1]$.